

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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60

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MMO-04 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15

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R 081534Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1355

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 245

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ARBA, MILI, PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: U.S. NAVY PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL BICENTENNIAL EVENTS

1. NORTHERN IRELAND IS OBSERVING AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL IN GENUINELY TOUCHING MANNER. INNUMERABLE EVENTS BEGINNING EARLY IN YEAR HAVE COVERED VERY BROAD RANGE FROM OPENING ULSTER-AMERICAN FOLK PARK WITH MEMBERS MELLON FAMILY ATTENDING TO SPECIAL AMERICAN WEEK ON COMMERCIAL TELEVISION TO SCHOOLS PROJECTS, AND ESSAY AND ART CONTESTS. PRACTICALLY EVERY TOWN AND VILLAGE THROUGHOUT PROVINCE EMPHASIZING BICENTENNIAL THEME IN CIVIC OBSERVANCES.

2. CONGEN WISHES GIVE RECOGNITION TO OUTSTANDING PARTICIPATION OF USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY IN NORTHERN IRELAND OBSERVANCES. LEVELS OF PARTICIPATION ESPECIALLY SIGNIFICANT GIVEN LIMITED RESOURCES OF STATION IN TERMS OF NUMBER OF PERSONNEL. TO KNOWLEDGE OF CONGEN USNAVCOMMSTA HAS ALREADY HELPED SPONSOR OR HAD IMPORTANT ROLE IN ALMOST A DOZEN MAJOR EVENTS FROM PROVIDING MARCHING UNITS TO GIVING EXHIBITIONS OF AMERICAN SPORTS SUCH AS SOFTBALL. THE STATION WAS MOST GENEROUS IN FILLING REQUESTS FOR LOANS OF BUNTING AND POSTERS, CONSIDERABLY AUGMENTING THE SCANT SUPPLY OF THIS OFFICE. MANY FROM STATION HAVE ALSO TAKEN PART IN ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SEA ANGLING CONTESTS AS INDIVIDUAL, REPRESENTATIVE AMERICANS. IT SHOULD ALSO BE UNCLASSIFIED

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NOTED THAT, GIVEN LOCATION OF STATION, MANY OF THESE EVENTS

HAVE TAKEN PLACE "WEST OF THE BANN" IN AREAS WHERE FEELINGS OF BEING NEGLECTED AND EVEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST (BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT IN BELFAST) LINGER ON. PRESENCE AND INTEREST OF AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES AT LOCAL EVENTS IE ENCOURAGEMENT TO LOCAL LEADERS WHO ATTEMPTING PRESERVE OR RESTORE SEMBLANCE OF NORMALITY TO GENERALLY GRIM SITUATION IN VERY REAL SENSE, USNAVCOMMSTA IS POSITIVE FACTOR IN GOOD RELATIONS AMERICANS ENJOY WITH POPULATION NORTHERN IRELAND.

3. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED CONSIDER FORWARDING THIS APPRECIATION TO APPROPRIATE RECIPIENT DOD.
SPICER

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NNN

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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